

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Applicant submits this amendment in response to the Office Action mailed July 7, 2005. A petition for a one-month extension of the term for response to said Office Action, to and including November 7, 2005, is transmitted herewith.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of claims 2-15, 17 and 18 that are pending in the present application. Applicant has amended claims 2, 3 and 17. No new matter has been added by these claim amendments. By the present amendment, claims 16, 39 and 40 have been canceled.

Claims 2, 4-6, 8, 14-16, 18 and 39 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Henson (GB Patent No. 2,405,584). Applicant has amended claim 2 to respond to this rejection. Specifically, claim 2 has been amended to disclose that the hair styling appliance has a flocked outer surface. Henson does not teach or suggest such a feature. Henson discloses a hair iron with a platen that "may be made of metal, glass or a glass-ceramic composite with insulated heating elements (40, Fig. 6) bonded or sintered thereon." (See abstract.) However, since Henson does not teach or suggest a hair styling appliance having a flocked outer surface, the rejection as to claim 2 should be withdrawn.

The rejection as to claims 4-6, 8, 14-15 and 18, inasmuch as each of these claims depends, directly or indirectly, from claim 2. By the present amendment, claims 16 and 39 have been cancelled.

Claim 40 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Edwards (U.S. Patent No. 5,273,058). By the present amendment, applicant has cancelled claim 40.

Claims 3 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Henson in view of Lo (U.S. Patent No. 6,223,753). Applicant has amended claim 3 to respond to this rejection. Specifically claim 3 has been amended to describe the heater as a rope heater assembly and further comprising a heat spreader to disperse heat generated by the heater. Henson does not teach or suggest such a feature. As previously noted, Henson discloses a hair iron with a platen that "may be made of metal, glass or a glass-ceramic composite with insulated heating elements (40, Fig. 6) bonded or sintered thereon." (See abstract.) However, Henson does not teach or suggest a heater in the form of a rope heater assembly and further comprising a heat spreader to disperse heat generated by the heater. Nothing in Lo has been asserted as teaching or suggesting anything that would remedy this deficiency in Henson. As such, applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, applicant respectfully submits that all claims present in this application are patentable over the prior art. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the claims. Also, applicant respectfully requests that this application be passed to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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